

The Church of God Evangel

"And when the day of Pentecost was fully come they were all with one accord in one place." Acts 2:1. And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost and began to speak with other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance." Acts 2:4.

Vol. 11. No. 5

CLEVELAND, TENN., JANUARY 31, 1920

5c Per Copy, \$1.00 Per Year.

Honor The Blood by Accepting Bible Sanctification !

When all Things Are Ready The Holy Ghost Will Come in to Abide and not Before !

FILLED WITH THE HOLY GHOST

Speak Reverently of The Shed Blood of The Lord Jesus Christ.

Honor The Savior For What He Has Done

This may seem like a "common place" subject, but I do not think anything written or spoken about Jesus and the Holy Ghost should be "common place."

The subject that is before us tonight is an important one, since it has cost so much to make it possible and appropriate. Years have sped rapidly by since the Holy Ghost was given at Pentecost until nearly twenty centuries have passed into eternity, but the subject before us never grows old.

I have often discoursed upon this lovely subject but never have been able to do it justice. It always seemed to me that I was unable to make it as impressive as it should be. There always seemed to be a depth to it that I could not fathom and a height about it to which I could not soar. But with all this feeling of limitation I never felt that I should give it up and quit speaking upon it.

Thinking about it in one sense it seems too sacred to touch. The heavenly atmosphere that seems to surround it is too sacred to penetrate. But it is my desire to tell people about sacred things, so I do not know of anything that has more sacredness about it than the Holy Ghost and Jesus. And I am sure people will never become too intimately acquainted with either one of these divine personages.

It was a common thing in the days of the Apostles to speak of being filled with the Holy Ghost. The wonderful experience that came to the followers of Jesus was spoken of afterwards by the narrator in these terms—"they were all filled with the Holy Ghost." This was said of one hundred and twenty humble followers of Jesus after they had really been filled with Him on that great and wonderful day.

Long before Pentecost as described at Acts 2 an Angel came to one Zacharias and told him he should have a son, and he should "call his name John" and that John should be "filled with the Holy Ghost." Then even before John was born, when Mary the mother of Jesus, visited Elisabeth the mother of John, "Elisabeth was filled with the Holy Ghost." (Luke 1:15,41.)

When Saul, afterwards called Paul, was stricken with blindness while on his way to Damascus, he was visited by Ananias who said to him, "Brother Saul, the Lord, even Jesus, that appeared unto thee in the way as thou comest, hath sent me, that thou mightest receive thy sight, and be filled with the Holy Ghost." (Acts 9:17.)

In a sermon preached by the great Apostle Paul at Antioch among the other good things he said that pleased the Gentiles so

well was, "It was necessary that the Word of God should first have been spoken to you (the Jews), but seeing ye put it from you, and judge yourselves unworthy of everlasting life, lo, we turn to the Gentiles." (Acts 13:46.) After the sermon was over he went over to Iconium where he was received with great joy, and the disciples over there "were filled *** with the Holy Ghost." (Acts 13:52.)

After Peter and John were imprisoned, and whipped, and threatened they came to their own company and told them of their trouble, and they all prayed earnestly until "the place was shaken where they were assembled together, and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost." (Acts 4:31.)

There is one more Scripture bearing on this subject to which I wish to call your attention. In giving instructions to the Ephesian brethren Paul added, "Proving what is acceptable unto the Lord." This was followed by a special command which was, "Be not drunk with wine wherein is excess, but be filled with the Spirit." (Eph. 5:18.)

By referring to these Scriptures it is easy to see that the Bible teaches both by precept and example that people should be filled with the Holy Ghost. There are two things specially noticeable about this expression. Like an empty vessel the person to be filled is capable of holding the Holy Ghost when He comes in, and that He is capable of filling that which is empty. On the day of Pentecost they were all filled with the Holy Ghost. Like the sponge that is dipped in water; like the vessel filled with water or other substance, men and women are filled with the Holy Ghost.

Now when we consider that the Holy Ghost is the third person in the Trinity it becomes more wonderful to us. Stop for one moment and reflect. God the Holy Ghost, as a substance to fill a vessel, fills the human body. As water fills every part of a sponge so the Holy Ghost saturates and fills every part of a person. They were all filled with the Holy Ghost. The old life has departed and the new life comes in. Again I say, this is wonderful!

Yes, it is indeed wonderful to be filled with the Holy Ghost. I am unable to express my feelings about this wonderful experience. And it is so real. It is no mere imagination. And we are filled now the same as the one hundred and twenty were on the day of Pentecost. Jesus said He would send Him and He came. Jesus also said that the Holy Ghost would not come unless He went away to send Him. Then we conclude that the Holy Ghost came from the very place where Jesus went

after He rose from the dead. And this same Holy Ghost that fills our souls and bodies came from heaven. Wonderful! Wonderful! Oh, so wonderful!

Walk softly, beloved, you who are filled with the Holy Ghost. Remember who He is, and where He came from, and who sent Him. If you will always keep this in mind surely you will always try to act and speak reverently. It may be because you do not see Him that you become forgetful of His presence sometimes. But He is just as real as if you could see Him. You cannot see that wonderful power we call electricity, but we know it is present because of the rumble of the machinery, or the brightness of the light in the room. So we know the Holy Ghost is present when we are truly filled with Him according to the Bible instruction.

It is by the power of the blood of Jesus Christ that the people are prepared to receive the Holy Ghost. Without the cleansing by the blood no one is made empty and clean so the Holy Ghost will come in to abide. Since this is true every one should speak reverently of the shed blood of the Lord Jesus Christ, and every body should honor the Savior for what He has done.

Since the Holy Ghost has condescended to come in to fill the empty vessels it would certainly be very unbecoming for any one in whom He dwells to act or talk in a way to grieve Him. The Apostle declares that one is not his own who has been bought with the precious blood of Christ, and signifies that the Holy Ghost should rule without a rival. Paul asks the question as if he feared some did not understand. He says, "Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price." (1 Cor. 6:19,20.) And of course we all know we were purchased with the precious blood of Jesus Christ. This is shown by Peter who says, "Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed (purchased) with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation, *** but with the precious blood of Christ." (1 Peter 1:18,19.) Seeing this is true then who could afford to speak irreverently of the shed blood of the Lord Jesus Christ? Of course no one that is filled with the Holy Ghost.

But I am afraid that some people who set aside sanctification are almost doing this, because it is by the blood that people are sanctified. "Wherefore Jesus also, that he might sanctify the people with his own blood, suffered without the gate." (Heb. 13:12) If they speak lightly of sanctification it seems to me that they dishonor the blood and dishonor Christ also, for it is with His precious blood that people are sanctified.

I do not understand how any

one can speak lightly and irreverently of the very experience that the blood was shed to obtain. To my mind they dishonor the blood every time they speak slightly of sanctification or refuse to accept the experience. But we will speak reverently of the shed blood and honor the Savior for what He has done. The experience is fresh and good and thousands of people are filled with the Holy Ghost now the same as they were in the days of the Apostles.

How, Why and When

M. S. Lemons

How to read the Bible is a problem to many. All know it should be read and many times they read it at random, i. e. they open and read the first thing they see. And if it happens to be at the place where Paul said, "Take a little wine," they seem to think they have a special revelation. In most instances this is not the best way. If a man should go to work in such a way he would be called a fool. He might go to hoeing in the wheat field instead of the cotton patch.

God said, "Get wisdom, and in all thy getting, get understanding." Many look at the Bible as a long, tedious, dry story, which is a very grave misapprehension. The Bible is the sweetest story book of the world, being a true story of divine things.

One of the best ways to read the Bible is to take it by subjects, but for general use to the individual, it is good to begin at Matthew and read straight through. The New Testament can be read through in twenty-four hours of constant reading. To read one hour a day, one can read it through in twenty-four days, but most Christians should read it through in a very few days. One can read the entire book of Revelation in one hour and fifteen minutes. In reading right through the Testament, one's nature will naturally assimilate such a part of the truth as they are adapted. For better service, a person should give certain parts more thought. They should put the very Word into their minds so it will be ready for any occasion. The Word will become a part of you; it will be ready to assist you in any emergency; it is a "sword," life and health to you; and it will "cut" your enemy until he will be compelled to refrain his words against you.

Why we should read much is to inform ourselves of God's way of doing business and dealing with His children. Read all He says about a subject. It gives us more accuracy of thought. We are more apt to pose ourselves in a decent and more honorable manner, with a greater degree of freedom of spirit. Those who do not read the Bible much lose the sweetness of words in a great measure. Their testimonies become "crusty", and their words are harsh. They do not get the attention of others as they used to and many times the hearers

are glad if they refrain from speaking.

We naturally assimilate the habits and character of our regular associates. It has always been the advice of good men to read good books, and the Bible is a good one. After reading the Word of God, one will naturally forget it unless he continues to re-read again and again. By so doing his nature will begin to grasp the good promises of the Bible and speak of it as his own. Jesus said, "If my word abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you."

Old Christian veterans who have "remembered their Creator in the days of their youth" are so taken up with the Lord that they sit and talk of His greatness and cry with joy all of the latter part of their lives. It is said that there are 32,000 promises in the Bible for the good of His faithful saints. Jesus said that we should live by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God. We should read the Bible on our knees.

When we should give the Word our undivided attention is in our youth. It is then that we should fix truths in our minds that will last the whole life and in eternity. We should read the Word much whether it is easy understood or not. The light will fall on us later. God said it would distill on us like dew. In the early morning is a good time to read the Word, while the mind is rested. Memorize every verse you can, and you can memorize many. Read it on your knees and God will give understanding. Give it out when the time presents itself. It will bless you and all who hear it.

Still on Victory Side

Dear Evangel Family:

I have lived in the Lord's fold almost five months and I am still on victory side. Praise God forever! I can't praise Him enough here but if I live true a few more days, I will then be where I can praise Him while the endless ages roll.

I first heard holiness preached about twelve years ago and I have never been guilty of persecuting His way. Thank God! I believed they were preaching the straight Bible and the countenance of the people revealed an experience that other people did not have, and one that I desired and longed for. However, I did not at that time break loose from the world.

A little later I attended a protracted meeting and was persuaded to hope that I had salvation, and joined the Methodist church. But I was completely devoid of soul rest. My companion had the same kind of salvation and the devil would sometimes arouse a quarrel which was very unpleasant to think about as we had three boys that we desired to raise in the right way.

A constant dread that God would take me away unprepared, continually haunted me until last August when Brother Henry Murphy conducted the Church of God annual camp

meeting at Tusquitee. The devil tried to keep me away but wife and I attended the holiness meeting and both received the Holy Ghost. Such a deep settled peace and joy that flooded my soul. We joined the Church of God—The body of Christ, followed Him in water baptism, washed the saint's feet, observed the Lord's supper and returned home rejoicing.

One of my brothers and his companion have followed in this experience, my mother and father are looking this way and seeking the experience, and two other brothers are seeking full salvation. Please pray for them to become in possession of this experience.

Dear reader, if you are not in possession of this wonderful experience, you are not where God intended you to be, and if you are not in the Church of God, you are not in the fold that Jesus is leading with the blessed Holy Ghost. Thank God, Hallelujah!

"After all the noted deeds of men have been reviewed, all their enjoyments tasted and their pleasures indulged in, yet in the final end the searcher after truth, the hungry heart for real satisfaction and joy that fadeth not, will come to our lowly Jesus, bow the knee to Him and in His presence find fullness of joy—at His right hand pleasure for evermore." (Jullierat.)

Glover P. Ledford.

Ripley, Tenn.

Dear Saints Everywhere—Greetings in Jesus' Dear Name: I am praising God for real victory in my soul. He is all in all to me. I praise His name for the Holy Ghost and fire Glory! "Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me." (John 5:39.)

"Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is Holy, which temple ye are." (1 Cor. 3:16-17.)

I am praising God for placing me in this highway of holiness. If you want to win victories on the battlefield for Jesus get the baptism of the Holy Ghost.

I ask all the saints to pray that we will do our dead level best here at Ripley this year. Best wishes to all the dear saints.

Your brother in Jesus.
J. L. Dillingham.

Richmond Dale, Ohio

Dear Brother Tomlinson—Greetings in Jesus' Name:

I have been saved, sanctified and filled with the Holy Ghost three years. Brother and Sister Haynes came here and held a three weeks meeting. They preached the true gospel and divine healing. I had suffered for about four years with a stiff jaw. I trusted the Lord and Brother and Sister Haynes prayed for me and the Lord healed me.

Please pray for me and my family to continue in the faith.
Your sister in Jesus,
Almeda Davis.

CHURCH OF GOD EVANGEL

A. J. TOMLINSON Editor and Pub.

Published Every Saturday D. V.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE

Three months...\$1.50 Six months...\$2.50
One year...\$4.50 Five years...\$20.00
Single copy 5 cents

PUBLISHING COMMITTEE

Appointed by the Annual Assembly of the Churches of God.

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Publishing House 2524 Gaut St. Cleveland, Tennessee.

INFORMATION—If you change your address you should promptly notify us, giving the old and new address.

When you renew your subscription please say "renewal." When you subscribe, please say "new subscriber."

Always write names and addresses PLAIN. If we fail to get your name or address right please notify us and we will take pleasure in making the correction.

We will do our best to keep from making mistakes, but if we make a mistake we will take pleasure in correcting it if you notify us.

We invite all the workers to send in reports of interest from the battle field. If nothing else a postal card telling where you are this week.

Help us make the Evangel a medium of information as well as a spiritual blessing.

Address all communications relating to the paper, and make all drafts, checks, express and postal orders payable to A. J. TOMLINSON, 2524 Gaut Street, Cleveland, Tennessee.

Entered as second-class mail matter March 1st, 1916, at Cleveland, Tennessee, under the act of March 3, 1879.

Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in section 1103, Act of October 3rd, 1917, authorized August 22nd, 1918.

"This publication is maintained by and in the interest of the Church of God."

Remember Home Mission Sunday comes Feb. 8, this time.

Most of the ministers are greatly stirred with enthusiasm and push. We believe greater things are just ahead.

The revival spirit is burning and blazing. People are getting the Holy Ghost in the regular weekly services. Praise the Lord.

S. R. Lee, Father of our Brother F. J. Lee, overseer of Fla., went to heaven last Monday evening after a constant decline in health of more than a year. His faithfulness as a member and deacon of the Church of God was very marked until he became feeble with age and ill health. He was loved and revered by all who knew him.

When Jesus comes He will find a multitude of people ready and watching for His return. They will give Him a glad welcome and the scene that will follow is indescribable except the short sketches given in the Bible. The resurrection of the dead saints and the catching up of the living will be extremely wonderful. Oh, what will it be!

The Virginia friends will need to bestir themselves a little more about increasing the subscriptions to the Evangel. Some of the states that started later gradually came up and up until they have surpassed her in the number of subscriptions. We are pleased that the others are gaining so rapidly, but we are not so well pleased with Virginia to fall behind. We would like to have a general campaign instituted in Old Virginia as soon as possible. God bless our Virginia friends. I love them dearly!

We are mailing the minutes this week to those who have sent in their orders. If any have changed their address since placing their orders they should arrange to get them forwarded to them. Remember the price is 25cts. each, \$2.50 per dozen. Special rates by the hundred. Hope our people will take an interest in their distribution. They will be eagerly read by many. Let us have your orders

as soon as possible. Order of Evangel Office.

The battle is still raging. The drive is still on. The enemy is on his job trying to defeat in this great conflict. He is persuading some not to help cast this mountain into the sea, but if there are some that will not help, God will raise up others to do it and give them the rewards. (Esther 4:14.) And I am sure no one would want to stand at the judgment and see some one get a reward that was once prepared for him. The one hundred dollar person has not yet reported. I do not know who this is, but I felt sure God was talking to some one about a hundred dollars to help put this drive over the top. But, thanks be unto God, we are constantly making gains. \$96.23 came in since our last report. This makes a total of \$3,944.28, with \$2,422.82 yet to raise. These figures show that we are away over half way up the side of the breast works of the enemy, but have not yet walked over the top. Many are writing good letters about the drive and say we must be successful in it, so we have no reason for discouragement or a fear of failure, but we must continue the fight, have faith in God and push ahead. God will give us the victory.

We have heard some objections to our paper because it gave notice of so many deaths. Our critics say we ought to give incidents of healing instead of notices of deaths. Well, let me explain a little. For several years we refused to publish obituaries and death notices. We thought it was not best. But the requests for space for these kept coming. Our people wanted these notices given. At last I yielded, very reluctantly at first but the more I thought about it the freer I felt in it. It is like this: We are working to get people saved and ready for heaven, then when they have gone to heaven, and our work has been thus far successful, where is there any reasonable objections for publishing it abroad? Paul says it is far better to depart than to remain. And the Bible records the death of many and if the Bible can afford to record the death of so many good people, (and bad too) then we can do it too. And if we do not publish death notices we do not follow the example laid down in the Bible. Furthermore, our subscriptions have doubled and tripled since we decided to give our friends space to give notice of the death of their loved ones. I do not say that this is the cause of the wonderful increase of circulation, but I will say that almost every home the Evangel visits has lost one or more loved ones. Where is the family that has escaped? And again, I say, how can there be any reasonable objections to publishing the fact that another one has been successful in the race and gone over to the other world? The Evangel stands for healing by the power of God just as firmly as it ever did, and it takes pleasure in publishing incidents of healing by the power of God, and almost every week there is mention made of healings, but we are also willing to tell of those who have gone to heaven. No one objects to telling of one going to Europe, Africa or South America, then why object to telling of one who has gone to heaven? Thank God, the Church of God has been instrumental in the salvation of hundreds in the last fifteen years that have safely landed on the other shore. We are still going to try to make the paper interesting to all, so if any one

is not interested in reading about some one going to heaven you read something else that interests you and let those who are interested in reading the death notices have their pleasure, too. It won't be long till the objector will lose a lovely flower from his home and he'll want some nice words written about his loved one, and he'll likely want it in the Evangel unless he is an enemy to this blessed white winged messenger.

We expect to have some more good news to tell you soon. Look out for it! Get some body else to subscribe for the paper so they can get the good news, too. We want this good news to go into every home in the world. You can help some if you get a few subscribers. O, my soul is full of that heavenly love! The fire of God's love and power is rolling in my heart. Hallelujah! Don't you feel the fire right now? I believe you do. Glory! Glory! Now feel better and rise above the gloom. Be courageous and help us spread the good news. Thanks to all our beloved friends that are faithfully helping us. We are working together so sweetly. Isn't it grand? Some of you are thousands of miles away and yet by means of the Evangel we are drawn near to one another. Oh this love, it is indeed wonderful!

Foreign Mission Receipts

Clara A. Mulliken, Trappe, Md.,	1 00
Church, Circleville, Ohio..	1 00
" Duke, N. C.,	1 25
" Cleveland, Tenn.	13 74
Sunday School, Artesia, Miss.,	2 00
Church, Red Oak Grove, Tenn.,	1 80
Sunday School, Sunny Side, Cleveland Tenn.,	2 41
Sunday School, Louisville, Ky.,	8 50
" Dunlap, Tenn.,	1 00
Church, Dunlap, Tenn.,	3 61
" Bankhead, Ala.,	3 60
" Harrisburg, Ill.,	6 50
" Pate's Temple, Miss.,	2 75
" Bushnell, Fla.,	3 00
" Miami, Fla.,	18 40
Sunday School, Helicon, Ala.,	1 30
Charlie Toombs, Philadelphia, Pa.,	1 50
Anna Kerney, Valdez, Colo.,	1 00

Home Mission Receipts

Church, Carmi, Ill.,	1 70
" Rome, Ga.,	2 00
" Fitzgerald, Ga.,	2 18
Flora E. Trim, Buhl, Ala.,	50
Church, Sunburst, N. C.,	4 80
" Whitlitt, N. C.,	79
" Toledo, Ohio.,	5 00
T. A. Richard,	85
Allen Rash, Exline, Iowa,	5 00
Church, Duke, N. C.,	1 25
Clara A. Mulliken, Trappe, Md.,	1 00
Church, Logan, W. Va.,	6 50
Ed Johnson,	3 00
Church, Lindale, Ga.,	2 18
" Imboden, Ark.,	2 00
" Rock Hill, S. C.,	8 25
" Alva, Fla.,	90
" Golden Valley, N. Dak.,	4 00
" Walhalla, S. C.,	3 96
" Sebring, Fla.,	5 00
" Kannapolis, N. C.,	1 40
Church, Marietta, Ohio.,	1 00
Glover P. Ledford,	1 36
" Parkersburg, W. Va.,	2 00
" Kentwood, La.,	6 61
" Augusta, Ga.,	2 50
" Largo, Fla.,	5 75
" McMinnville, Tenn.,	3 70
" East Chattanooga, Tenn.,	2 85
" Toledo, Ohio.,	40
" Alachua, Fla.,	50
" Canton, N. C.,	1 15
" Gastonia, N. C.,	4 00
" Garrison, W. Va.,	6 52
" Branford, Fla.,	4 60
" Dorothy, W. Va.,	75
" Harriman, Tenn.,	1 31
" Anniston, Ala.,	1 05
" Arcadia, Fla.,	2 00

Report

Dear Brother Tomlinson—Greetings in Jesus' Dear Name:

We have just closed a meeting in Vanburen Co., Tenn. Two were reclaimed, seven sanctified and two received the Holy Ghost. Fourteen seekers were in the altar when the meeting closed. The weather was so bad and the house was so open we thought it best to close. We are praising God for what He has done there.

Every one that can work for Jesus should be busy. Pray that I may do all I can for Him.

Your sister under the blood,
Mrs. J. E. Jaco.

Thank God for Messages
Dear Brother Tomlinson—Greetings in Jesus' Name:

I thank God for the messages that are so full of love and sweetness to my soul. They encourage me and make me want to get closer to God. Praise His dear name!

I want my lamp trimmed and oil in my vessel so I'll be ready when Jesus comes. Thank God for these words. "I will come again and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also." Praise God! I expect to walk in the light.

Pray for me that I may step out on God's promises and fight the battle for King Jesus.

Yours under the blood,
J. W. King,
Perkinston, Miss.

Ravenna, Texas.

Dear Brother Tomlinson, and the Dear Saints Scattered Abroad—Greetings and Love in the Precious Name of Our Redeemer:

I can feel the real fire of God's sweet love burning in my heart just now. Glory to God! I have a great desire to serve and do more for Him. He is so sweet to my soul. Although we meet opposition, the Word of God stands true. I want to be instrumental in winning souls for God.

There are only three saints here but I know Jesus is with us. I want all who read this to pray that God will send some Church of God preacher here, that is on fire for God. The fields are white unto harvest but the laborers are few.

I desire the prayers of all who read this that I may stand true. Pray for my children that they may be saved.

Your brother out for lost souls,
W. V. Henry.

Ravina, Okla.

Dear Brother Tomlinson, and Evangel Family:

I am saved, sanctified and filled with the Holy Ghost. Praise His name! I love the Church of God since I have learned what she is. I didn't know there was a people who preached and practiced the whole truth until Brother and Sister Pritchard sent the Evangel to me. Thank God for it.

I have been saved and sanctified about fifteen years and received the Holy Ghost about six months ago. I was a Gospel Trumpet believer. I had to give up good friends for the church.

Please pray that my husband and three boys may be saved.
Mary Pierce.

Another Man Healed

To All the Dear Saints—Greetings in Jesus' Dear Name:

I am praising God for His healing power. I had a bad case of the influenza, and when I had lost all hopes of getting well, the dear Lord said, "Let me heal you." I thought it hard to give up medicine but I promised the Lord if He would heal me that afternoon that by His help I would trust Him to the end. The saints gathered and read and prayed, and the dear Lord healed me instantly. Just before I was so weak I could hardly breathe.

Praise God for the way He leads me. I have more love in my heart than ever before. How I love everybody. I praise God for His cleansing power that sets us free from sin.

Pray that I may stay humble at Jesus' feet and be a living witness for Him and that I may trust Him to the end with both soul and body. Pray that my family may be saved.

Your humble brother under the blood,

A. J. Miller, Jr.,
Broxton, Ga.

River of Life

G. F. Danehower

"There is a river, the streams whereof shall make glad the city of God, the holy place of the tabernacles of the most High." (Psa. 46:4.)

The river of life rises in the midst of Paradise and flows through the heaven gates and empties into the ocean of death.

At the age of accountability, each individual is launched into the "stream about midway, and he must either drift downward with the current or work upward against it. The river flows with different degrees of rapidity as you go from shore toward the center. The chief theme of human life is for one to struggle against the natural currents and push his way farther and farther up the stream toward heaven and success.

It is very easy to move with the current. Idleness is a drifting toward death. The devil has many things along the bank of this river of life to attract attention. By looking intentionally toward the shore, no one will realize that he is surely drifting toward the black waters of destruction. It is the devil's business to engage one's thoughts in any way he can to keep them from using the oar against the stream. Happy is the person who refuses to give time and thought to the attractions and inward temptations of the devil. We must keep our eyes gazing up stream.

The farther up this stream we go, the better things look. The flowers are prettier, life is happier, and the water more like crystals. But the farther down the stream you go, the water gets muddy and the climate unhealthy. I am sorry to say that more are going down stream today than are going up. Why? It is because the devil will steer the boat down stream while the people sit back and have a good time. But just as soon as you see some young man or girl start up stream, you will see the devil get busy and try to hinder, and use his agents to point their fingers and make fun, and call them the trash of the earth. When a man goes fishing, he loves to go up stream where the clear water flows, to catch the large trout.

My beloved friends, let us continue pulling on the oars up stream so we can get in the place where we can receive more joy and greater blessings from God. Even though the storms may roar and the waves roll against us, let us keep our eyes looking up stream where the crystal waters flow and the heaven joys roll. Pull on both oars and keep steady for if we turn one oar loose or let one go slack, we will begin to go around and around or to one side and may cause destruction and ruin.

"Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone." (Jas. 2:17.) The two oars are faith and works, and it takes both to go straight up the stream of life. Some may pass you even as you go up the stream but do not become faint hearted. Not always those who travel rapidly make the most progress in the end.

The humble faithful worker, in his efforts to travel up stream, will naturally meet many oppositions, but if he is persistent and surrenders to no temptation, he will surely come to the place

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where rowing is easier, and blessings more common along the way. Praise the Lord! Some of these days if we continue to pull on our oars we will land our boat through the portals of heaven, where we will receive a crown worth all the mocks, frowns and toils of life.

It is a common thing to see people start up stream and when persecutions begin to come, then Satan comes along and tells them to turn back and go down stream where they can travel with ease and go fast and enjoy things along the way. They yield to his flowery speech, lay down their oars and speed down stream toward destruction and despair. In their madness they act as if they wished to see the whole program of sin as soon as possible. What do they care for warning voices? They sing a jolly song and close their ears to every loving cry, as they feast their sensual eyes upon the moral impurities along the way. The devil laughs at them while others weep.

Beloved, the waters are moving, and you are somewhere on this stream. It is impossible to stand still. You are either moving up the stream toward heaven and success, or you are drifting down stream toward the ocean of death, the place that is never filled. A place where you can hear Satan sing these words:

You have lived and died for my noble cause,
Your soul is eternally marred,
You shall see no more the glimpse of light,
Of heaven from which you are barred.
Then fling all your hopes my friend, to the winds,
As the echo of sadness replies,
You will feel henceforth the deeper degrees,
Of the hell which beneath you lies."

Nothing can Defeat the Holy Ghost

Dear Brother Tomlinson, and All the Saints of the Church of God:

I am praising God this morning for the Comforter that abides within. Praise His sweet name!

About six months my brother and his wife came home filled by the blessed Holy Ghost. I began to search my Bible to turn it down but, praise God there is nothing to turn it down. Two others have received the Holy Ghost. We want some good Church of God preacher to come six miles west of Saucier, Miss. and preach for us.

I have been shouting the victory about a month and I want all the praying people to pray that I may stand true. Also pray for my husband to receive the light and win the victory over sin and the devil.

Your true sister in Christ,
Mrs. Sallie Lee Bang,
Hovey, Miss.

The Lord Still Performs Miracles

Dear Brother Tomlinson, and All the Saints—Greetings:
I feel that Jesus would be pleased to have me tell of another victory accomplished in His name.

While at Paris, Texas, we were holding meeting near a hospital and became acquainted with, and interested in a young man, who had been a patient for nearly three months.

A Church of God sister worked in the serving room of the hospital. It was her duty to prepare the trays and carry meals to some of the patients and she talked to this young man about his soul and his healing. Thru her petition, I visited him and saw he was very anxious to know the Lord in His fullness.

The doctors pronounced his case incurable as he had tuberculosis of the bone. When he was first carried to the hospital, his left lower limb was operated on and the bone was sawed in two just below the knee joint, and the knee cap was taken out. Since then the bone had slowly been decaying and both edges were affected. The doctors at last told him his only hope was to have his limb amputated, and he consented, thinking it was the only chance. It was about this time that I began to visit him. At last Sisters Brown, Wilson, Edwards and I decided to fast and pray for him, and had a set time to meet at the hospital and pray over him. They did not allow it but we were looking to God to make a way, which He did. Praise God!

The enemy tried to make me give up, but on the morning of the day we were to pray for him, Sister Brown, the sister who worked at the hospital, sent me word that they expected to amputate the limb that morning and we would not be allowed to visit him for several days. I prayed harder than before. When they carried the man to the operating room, laid him on the table, and gave the ether, and began to examine the limb, to their astonishment, it had healed over and the bones were knit together strong enough to hold up the weight of the entire limb, Hallelujah!

Of course they were dumbfounded as they examined the limb the day before and pronounced it incurable. The young man awoke praising God and the effects of the ether did not make him sick at all. This was also a surprise to them. He was carried back to his room and was continually praising the Lord.

The next day when we visited him he received the Holy Ghost and spoke in tongues. The doctor dismissed him. This gave us a chance to speak to several patients about their souls. Another young man was saved and when we left Paris he was seeking the Holy Ghost.

The head nurse and all had to say that God had performed a miracle in their midst.

Dear saints, never weaken but contend for your rights. The enemy causes lots of people to weaken just before the victory would come. Never give up but know that God is able to make a way when there is no way. Praise God! He is marching on and "is the same yesterday and to-day and forever."

Perhaps this will encourage some despondent soul and cause him to look up "to the hills from whence cometh our help."

Yours in the battle for truth and against sin,

Mrs. B. L. Shepherd,
Thurber, Texas.

Reports from the Battlefield

H. V. Lawson of Hazelgreen, Ky. reports victory in a meeting. Fifteen were saved, twelve sanctified, and eight received the Holy Ghost. Praise God!

"We have just closed a ten days meeting at Stithon, Ky. God wonderfully saved eight souls, sanctified five, and baptized two with the precious Holy Ghost. The dear Lord blessed in a wonderful way. Praise God from whom all blessings flow!" is the report of Sisters Flora Bohman and Georgia Riggs. May the Lord continue to give them souls for their hire.

Bartley L. Hicks, Canton, N. C. reports victory in his soul and for a revival. Sister Dovie Williams, assisted by Sister Louise Werner, conducted the meeting. Three were saved, three sanctified, and three added to the Church of God. The sleepy saints were awakened. May the Lord continue to richly bless.

C. S. Paxton sends good report of meeting at Shrewsbury, W. Va. During the three weeks meeting two were saved, five received the Holy Ghost, and four came into the great Church of God. The Lord wonderfully blessed all the way through. People were convinced that holiness is right, and the Church of God is being exalted. May the Lord bless all efforts of the meeting.

"One Sunday night during the regular service, conviction seized the people. Five came to the altar and three definitely blessed, so the meeting continued through the week. Sleet was on the ground but the crowds came. Up to this time, nine have been saved, nine sanctified, and two received the Holy Ghost. The fire is still falling," reports John O. Yates of Dorrisville, Ill. May the Lord bless the hungry souls.

Mrs. G. W. Maness of Lamison, Ala. praises the Lord for sending Brother C. B. Reynolds to hold a few days meeting and to set a church in order. There are nine members and seven have the Holy Ghost. Sunday school was also organized with forty scholars. May the Lord keep the little band strong.

Brother J. M. Pence of Somerset, Ky. reports, "Our overseer of state, Brother Brouayer, has just closed a ten days meeting here with great victory. It rained every night but the house was full. A large number were saved sanctified and filled with the Holy Ghost and five came into the Church."

Notice

We want some one who is on fire for God to come to Quitman in the spring, about April, and conduct a tent meeting. We will furnish the tent. D. V. We have a good organist, and will see to the needs of the right person. We will have good seats and good lights. We are right in a town of about 6,000 inhabitants.

If anyone desires to come, we would like to hear from you so we can make arrangements about the tent and other necessities. We would be glad if you would bring about two good workers.

J. T. Hughes, Clerk, Church of God,

Quitman, Ga.

FOXES BOOK OF MARTYRS

The title describes the contents of the book. This book contains information that, if read, will no doubt be a blessing to our people at this time.

Single copy, post paid \$1.25.

Notice

We expect to hold a district conference for Meadville district, at Byrd Chapel church near Meadville, Miss., beginning Feb. 19, Thursday night before the fourth Sunday.

I will be glad for all the members to be present and expect a feast from the Lord, as these conferences are authorized by the General Assembly for the purpose of giving instructions and advice. Come one, come all.

E. B. Culpepper.

To members of the Church of God at Harriman, Tenn. who are not in touch with the church, you are hereby requested to communicate with us within 90 days, or by April 1st. A failure to do so will forfeit your membership.

By order of the church in business session held Jan. 5, 1920.

Mrs. F. D. Davis, clerk.
926 Clinton St.,
Harriman, Tenn.
Chas. M. Grisam, pastor.
609 Clifty St.,
Harriman, Tenn.

To the Sobel district I now announce my appointments as follows:

I will be at White Oak Flats on the first Saturday and Sunday of each month, Sobel the second, Liverwort the third, and Kings Chapel the fourth. Remember we will have Saturday night service at each place.

We hope to have regular services with the saints at Nashville soon as I am moving there to make it my home for the year.

God bless you all.
Your unworthy servant,
T. A. Richard, dist. overseer.

To all the members of the church at Wimauma. Brother Zeno Tharp has been appointed as clerk and treasurer to succeed me. All who wish to send in tithes or other offerings may send to him.

Yours in Him,
J. L. Huggins,
Wimauma, Fla.

Received the Holy Ghost

Dear Brother Tomlinson, and All the Dear Saints—Greetings:

I praise God for what He is to me. About one month after I requested the saints to pray, I received the baptism of the Holy Ghost. Bless His name. I praise God for His healing power.

I have many temptations but I'm sure the Lord will give us sufficient grace to overcome. It seems that the devil is doing everything he can to overcome me but by the Lord's help I mean to press on regardless of the cost. I desire the saints to pray that I may have more freedom. I want to put forth every effort to win souls for Jesus.

Pray for God to send us a holiness preacher. There are holiness people here but my mother and myself. Pray that my grandfather and grandmother may receive the light, also that my sister and three brothers may seek Jesus before it is too late.

Your sister under the blood,

Exie Hunt.

Notice

I have been informed that Sister Watts made enquiry for me some time ago in the Evangel. For some cause I did not receive my paper and that is why I did not respond. Will Sister Watts please write me?

Mary D. McHargue,
Gastonia, N. C. R-2.

Deliverance in Affliction

"Many are the afflictions of the righteous; but the Lord delivereth them out of them all." (Psa. 34:19.)
"For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory." (2 Cor. 4:17.)

"And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are called according to his purpose." (Rom. 8:28.)

"In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you." (1 Thes. 5:18.)

"Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ." (Eph. 5:20.)

Oh glory be to God for His goodness and for His wonderful works to the children of men. We can praise Him in affliction and not hang our harp on a weeping willow. Our God is a great God and a wonder working God. Our lives are in His hands. Oh, beloved, we want to keep close to Him every moment, obedient to Him in everything, under the blood and ready for His coming. For we know not the day, hour or moment that Jesus may come.

The joy, thanksgiving, gratitude, praise and glory are swelling up in my soul this morning. I met with a terrible accident a few days ago and it is only a miracle of God's grace and love that I am here. I want to tell of His wonderful deliverance for His glory.

I preached at Corinth Church on Sunday night. Monday morning the Lord came with such a sweet melting blessing at family worship in Brother Bobo's home. I then climbed into a wagon, lost my balance and went out backwards over the front of the wagon on the swingle trees and tongue, and down under the feet of the mules. I was conscious all the while. My body seemed to be in a mass and one mule kicked at my head. I thought it would kick my brains out but I knew I was in the Lord's hands and was not afraid. The mules became frightened and ran, and the wagon wheel went over my body and head. My mind was on the Lord. The wheel did not leave a mark on my head but I believe two ribs are broken. Husband picked me up immediately. Sister Bobo phoned for Brother and Sister Newman. They all got hold of God in prayer and instantaneous relief came from intense suffering. Oh how the joy and praises flooded my soul.

Dear Sister Newman and Sister Bobo so sweetly ministered to my needs, and the Lord has wonderfully upheld and delivered me.

Oh, if people only knew what the Lord will do for them if they trust Him. Oh, how I love Jesus. I want every body to love and serve Him. How I love the Church of God. I love lost souls. I mean to be faithful and do all I can till Jesus calls.

Yours for Jesus, the church and lost souls,

Mrs. Flora E. Trim.

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Past Three Score Years and Ten

Dear Brother Tomlinson, and All the Dear Saints—Everywhere, I want to praise God for what He has done for me. I am saved, sanctified, filled with the Holy Ghost, and have been a member of the blessed Church of God for nearly six years. I am glad that I ever found this precious way.

I have passed three score years and ten. I haven't much longer to stay here and I intend by the grace of God to spend the time in His service. Pray that I'll be faithful to the end.

Your brother under the blood,
J. N. Hartline,
Rising Fawn, Ga.

I Was Once Blind, Now I See

There is a testimony on my heart this morning. The real joy bells are ringing in my soul, for whereas I was once blind concerning the Church of God, now I see and my sense of sight grows stronger instead of weaker. Thank God!

Seeing some whose sight is weakened, and others who have lost their sight entirely, makes me rejoice more and more, because I have the Divine Healer for every kind of spiritual blindness.

As I went about persecuting the Church of God, one day a spiritual blindness fell upon me and I realized I was indeed blind. I cried to God to relieve me of this awful darkness or blindness, and He said if I would quit my persecutions. I told Him I was glad to do anything that I might see again, although I did not yet know it was really His church. I only thought He was offended of persecutions alone—not because it was His church truly etc.

As I ceased persecuting the Church of God, behold, my eyesight was restored. To my surprise, it was, indeed, His real church. I cannot make it too plain, dear friends, this is His body, His flesh, His bones, and can we wonder why we see dark faces that were once light when we know they allow the strength and power of the Divine Healer—His real body—to pass them by as they stand in their blindness and quibble over some little point of doctrine they can't see?

It is no wonder, brother, sister, that you can't see. Quit your persecution and questions, submit to the great Healer—call on Him while He is near. Soon you will hear Him say, "What wilt thou have me to do?" Dear friends, we are not dealing with man, but God. Yet all must consent that God works through men, always has, and always will.

We cannot wonder why we are taught in His Word to submit to one another in the fear of God. There are some self-willed who do not fear God enough to submit. It does not hurt me to submit to others on this Scripture whether they are right or wrong. When I submit and they are wrong, then the battle is God's—I have obeyed Him.

He fights my battle.

If you could only see how I have written this testimony, my surroundings as I write, how I catch a moment between moments of work, household affairs, cooking, washing, sewing, administering to little needs on every side—yet my vision is clear enough on the true Church of God to deliver my heart in the face of all this and declare to you that "whereas I was once blind, I now see."

Pearl Adams,
Coffeeville, Miss.

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